

SECRET



IDEA-0227-72

Copy 1 of 7

31 March 1972

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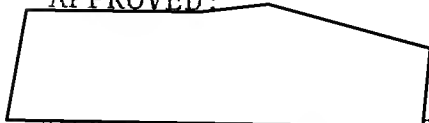
MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Special Activities
SUBJECT : RQ-225 Parachute Modification
REFERENCE : IDEA-0159-72 dtd 22 March 1972
Same Subject as above

Request your approval to modify the U-2R parachute
in the IDEALIST Program in accordance with the attached
references.

Chief, Aero Medical Staff
Office of Special Activities

Attachment
As stated above

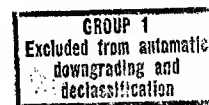
APPROVED:



Director of Special
Activities

10 APR 1972

Date



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SECRET

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IDEA-0227-72
Page 2

25X1

AMS/OSA [redacted] (28 Mar 72)
Distribution

- 1 - AMS/OSA w/att
- 2 - " "
- 3 - D/SA "
- 4 - D/O/OSA "
- 5 - D/M/OSA "
- 6 - Idea/O/OSA "
- 7 - RB/OSA w/o att

SECRET

25X1

SECRET

IDEA-0159-72

22 March 1972

ATTACHMENT

Form 163a
8-66

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy for Materiel, OSA
SUBJECT : RQ 225 Parachute Modification

1. Request your concurrence to modify IDEALIST U-2R RQ-225 parachutes to include six-line release modification.

2. Reference attachment #1, ADP SP-1811, indicates although modification does not degrade parachute performance, that pilots either through lack of strength or slow reaction time, would not be able to properly control the parachute with the added modification. This statement is subject to some discussion even among experimental parachutists. It is an established fact that without the modification, it is impossible to turn or steer the parachute.

3. ADP parachute riggers feel that the addition of the release will not require much additional time in re-pack nor will the one-time rigging of the parachutes be unduly expensive.

GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

SECRET

SECRET

IDEA-0159-72
Page 2

25X1

5. IDEALIST pilots understand the modification, have been polled, and are 100% in favor of having the release available to them.

6. The four-line release, which accomplishes the same end result, is standard on all Air Force ejection-equipped aircraft and has been utilized successfully by airmen an untold number of times including SEA escapes. The T-37 aircraft parachutes presently in use at Detachment G have the four-line release included as standard equipment.

7. Reference attachment 2, the six-line release modification, should not be adopted for Customer #2 operations. SAC U-2R pilots have not been properly trained in the use of the modification and parachute repack is accomplished at base level. Historically, the Davis Monthan AFB parachute facility leaves something to be desired and to complicate the parachute repack in any way might prove to be too challenging for less experienced riggers.

CONCUR:

[Redacted]

28 Mar 72
Date

[Redacted]

AMS/OSA

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SAM D/M/OSA
Attachments
As stated above

AMS/OSA

1 - Addee w/att
2 - AMS w/o att
3 - " "
4 - RB "

CONCUR:

[Redacted]

D/O/OSA

29 MAR 1972
Date

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☐ UNCLASSIFIED

☐ USE ONLY

☐ CONFIDENTIAL

☒ SECRET

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

FROM:

C/AMS/OSA

EXTENSION

NO.

Idea-0227-72

DATE

31 Mar 72

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

RECEIVED

FORWARDED

OFFICER'S INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

1.

EO/SA

3 April

2.

DD/SA

3.

D/SA
Approval

4/16

4.

AMS/OSA

10 APR 1972

5.

RB/OSA

6.

7.

8.

9.

10.

11.

12.

13.

14.

15.

1 to 2

Even though the two attachments recommend against this modification, Doc has verbally explained that the test described in these attachments do not apply to our mode of operation. i.e. with good training and understanding of the system it would be advantageous for our pilots to have this parachute modification. Therefore I concur on the proposal.

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